in awe of the Queen to disbelieve it. "I'll try it when I go home," she thought to herself, "the next time I'm a little late for dinner."

"It's time for you to answer now," the Queen said, looking at her watch; "open your mouth a *little* wider when you speak, and always say 'your majesty.'"

"I only wanted to see what the garden was like, your majesty——"

"That's right," said the Queen, patting her on the head, which Alice didn't like at all, "though, when you say 'garden,'—*I've* seen gardens, compared with which this would be a wilderness."

Alice didn't dare to argue the point, but went on: "And I thought I'd try and find my way to the top of that hill——"

"When you say 'hill,'" the Queen interrupted, "*I* could show you hills, in comparison with which you'd call that a valley."

"No, I shouldn't," said Alice, surprised into contradicting her at last: "a hill *can't* be a valley, you know. That would be nonsense——"

The Red Queen shook her head. "You may call it 'nonsense' if you like," she said, "but *I've* heard nonsense, compared with which that would be as sensible as a dictionary!"

Alice courtesied again, as she was afraid from the Queen's tone that she was a *little* offended, and they walked on in silence till they got to the top of the little hill.